

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

HAER  
MD  
22-WILPD,  
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Index to Photographs

Potomac Edison Company: Chesapeake  
and Ohio Canal Bridge  
Spanning Chesapeake and Ohio Canal  
just South of U. S. 11  
Williamsport  
Washington County  
Maryland

HAER No. MD-23

NOTE: Photograph was taken by William E. Barrett, photographer, 1970

MD-23-1 VIEW OF BRIDGE LOOKING DOWNSTREAM (EASTERLY).

# HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

## INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

POTOMAC EDISON COMPANY, CHESAPEAKE & OHIO  
CANAL BRIDGE  
(Chesapeake & Ohio Canal Lift Bridge)  
Spanning C & O Canal South of U.S. 11  
Williamsport  
Washington County  
Maryland

HAER MD-23

Photograph HAER MD-23-1 was previously transmitted to the Library of Congress.

## INDEX TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Jet Lowe, Renee Bieretz, photographers, March 2008

- |         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
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| MD-23-2 | East elevation of lift bridge, with U.S. Rt. 11 bridge in background.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| MD-23-3 | West elevation of lift bridge, with Bollman Bridge in background.<br>Note portion of R. Paul Smith Power Station in right background.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| MD-23-4 | North elevation of lift bridge. Plywood decking is not original.<br>Note portion of R. Paul Smith Power Station in left background.                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| MD-23-5 | South elevation of lift bridge, with tow path in foreground and U.S. Rt. 11 bridge in background.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| MD-23-6 | View of north tower base panel and portion of concrete abutment.<br>Note riveted construction and dual-wire rope connections from counterweight to lift span on both sides. Lift wire ropes have been removed.                                                                                                                                                   |
| MD-23-7 | Detail of lift wire rope attachment to lift span at southeast corner.<br>Note rope-adjustment turnbuckle with strap keepers to prevent its rotation, which could pull the bridge out of alignment. A single rope and light-gauge attachment at each corner were adequate for lifting the span because most of its weight was balanced by the two counterweights. |

POTOMAC EDISON COMPANY, CHESAPEAKE & OHIO

HAER MD-23

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

MD-23-8	Detail of counterweight wire rope attachment to lift span at southwest corner. The plates with three pins serve to equalize the forces on the counterweight ropes.
MD-23-9	Interior of machinery house showing (L to R) first-stage gearbox, hoist drum, and second-stage bull gear. The electric motor, which has been removed, turned the gearbox flange. Lifting wire ropes have been cut and left slack.
MD-23-10	Interior of control house showing remains of controller. Moving the handle rotated the vertical shaft and porcelain cams to engage various electrical switches and activate the lift mechanism. All electrical components have been removed.
MD-23-11	A U.S. Geological Survey marker embedded in the northeast corner of concrete abutment. This view also shows the basic abutment and tower footing arrangement.
MD-23-12	Looking east at canal and R. Paul Smith Power Station. The dark trestle at right center carried the spur track to coal unloading facilities located in the space now occupied by the coal pile.
MD-23-13	Looking west at lift bridge, canal, and tow path, with U.S. Rt. 11 bridge in background. Remnant of spur track to R. Paul Smith Power Station is at left, and abandoned Western Maryland Railway right of way parallels canal at right.